Legislators.

CONSOLIDATION AS VIEWED BY LEGISLATORS AND LEADERS.

Lexow's Sub-Committee Reports on Its Mission of Inquiry.

Arguments for Union and Reasons for Exclusion of Queens County Towns.

Grady, Brush and M'Keown Dissent from the Majority's Conclusions.

An Oyster Bay Politician Responsible for the Feature of the Report

The joint Committee on Cities will meet on Tuesday and will receive the report and EXCLUSION OF QUEENS TOWNS AN OPEN QUESTION. probably adopt it. The only surprise contained in Mr. Lexow's report and the bill he presents, the text of which was printed in the Journal yesterday, lies in the fact that Jamaica, Flushing and Hempstead have been excluded. The report makes but brief and unsatisfactory references to the reasons for this action.

Gossip current here to-day hat it that William P. Youngs, of Oyster Bay, prevailed upon Mr. Lexow to leave out these three. Mr. Youngs is a Republican State committeeman. He does much work in the promotion of legislation in Albany. He, it is said, told Mr. Platt that if the portion of Queens County that It has been decided to leave out were kept in the consolidation scheme and made a part of Greater New York he (Youngs) would be unable to swing that portion of Queens County In the artistic manner he now does.

Senators Lexow and Brush make exactly contradictory remarks about Jamaica; Flushing and Hempstead. Senator Lexow says that these towns voted against consolidation, while Senator Brush says they voted for it, and that Brooklyn cast a majority of votes against it. The Platt machine is very fearful that this inconsistency will raise a howl, for Mr. Lexow said to-day that all the members of the sub-committee who signed the report were not bound to stand by that provision of the bill, but were at entire liberty to take | To the Editor of the Journal: the other side of he matter. The anticonsolidationists are making this feature of the bill and report their chief point of

Senator Grady stands upon this feature as his ground for dissent, disagreeing with Senator Cantor, whose objection is based upon the provision relative to a formation of a commission for drafting laws.

There is a vast amount of uninteresting matter in the report and a as a whole it will probably never be read. The beat is

at the end of the bone. Pith of the Majority Report.

The committee's report concludes thus: It is enought for this purpose to report that in our judgment the questions left undecided present no barrier to consolidation and apply not to the naked question of consolidation, but to future legislation which will be necessary in order to fully accomplish the complete unification of the distinct localities.

There is one objection, however, to the Conso

idation bill proposed by the Inquirey Commission, which, in our judgment, merits serious consideration. Those in the City of Brooklyn who appeared in opposition to the bill claimed that he Commission as at present consisted was not appointed for any other purposes than those enumerated in the act of their original chapter 311 of the laws of 1890; and that in their selection peculiar fitness and ability to frame laws which shall govern the affairs of terests were not necessarily considered by the

appointing power.
It was claimed, moreover, that the arlous localities were unequally represented with reference to both population and influence, and that a new commission, especially selected, to adequately perform the difficult and delicate mission should be provided. We believe that ther is much force in this position, and that a new commission appointed with special reference to the work should be created, selected with due regard to the interests of the respective locali-

THE EXCLUDED TERRITORY. It has furthermore been urged that the inclusion of more territory of Queens County than the city of Long Island City and the town of Newtown would not add to the value or effi cancy of the proposed consolidation; and we concusion.

We have treated the objections raised by citi-

port largely to their consideration for the rea son that none of the other districts proposed to be consolidated have raised their voices in protest against the execution of the mandate of 1894. It is true that one appeal was made by a citizen of Richmond County to exclude that territory from the proposed consolidation, and that the Corporation Counsel of the City of New York suggested the advisability of pursuing To the Editor of the Journal: that course. On the other band, there appears to be an overwhelming preponderance of senti-ment in favor of consolidation and it is no deemed advisable to pay heed to this solit

The passage of the Consolidation bill, so pointment by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, of a new sion, consisting of fifteen members, of which the present president of the in-quiry Commission and the Mayors of the cities of New York, Brooklyn and Long Island City and the State Engineer and the Attorney-General shall be ex-officio mem-

city of all parts of Queens County except Long Island City and the town of Newtown.

tion inquiry Commission, which gives effect to the popular vote of 1894 by ordaining consolidation to take effect on the first day of January, 1898, provides for the continuance of all existing local governments until changed by future legislative action, and for an appropriation to enable the Commission to prepare and submit to the Legislature necessary legislation with the specific direction to prepare a plan for the attainment of

efficiency of the proposed consolidation.

mind, a doubt as to the duty of the Legislature

tion raised as to its advisability.

To the Editor of the Journal:

thousand majority against it.

of the party responsible for it.

under one form of government.

duty that we partially yield to the public demand.

and the portion which it is assumed may be safely ignored.

The territory excluded from the Greater New York Sub-Committee's report will be included Parkhurst Scores when the bill is presented to the Senate. This announcement is made upon the highest authority. The bill will be rushed through both houses, and will be followed by sup- Consolidation Should Only Be Effected After a Study plementary bills to reorganize the Police, Fire and Health Departments.

The question of inclusion or exclusion of the towns of Queen County not

now embraced in the bill as amended has been expressly reserved for con-

sideration before the joint committee Each of the members of the Sub-Com-

mittee signing the report has, by general consent, the privilege of taking

against consolidation. Those parts of Queens County now included cast a

majority vote for consolidation. Moreover, these excluded towns are largely

agricultural, and their exclusions does not militate against, but adds to the

strong sentiment expressed in favor of it by Brooklyn, and in conformity

with the Governor's recommendations of last year. The addition of the

of additional commissioners by the Governor, with the approval of the Sen-

ate, guarantees that the character and ability of the appointees will square

LEGISLATURE BOUND BY THE PEOPLE'S VOTE.

people, we must reflect, in our official action, the public will as expressed,

or as intelligently interpreted. It will not suffice for a discharge of this

polls as to the particular portion of their wishes which is to be respected,

these sound democratic principles, I gladly and heartily indorse it. To every

departure from them I wish to be understood as emphatically dissenting. As

to the proposition for a new commission to frame the legislation for the

government of Greater New York, I am of the opinion that, in view of all

the facts connected with the present situation, there will be no serious ques-

A VIOLATION OF HOME RULE IS PROPOSED.

So far as the document is considered as a literary production, I have no

A combination of this great city with any of the smaller cities in the

aside from party politics, by men of experience and unquestioned ability.

the vote on consolidation is final, yet they now propose to throw out a por-

There can be no division of a solemn declaration of the voters at the

In so far as the report of the majority of the Sub-Committee recognizes

with the magnitude and importance of the labors devolving upon them.

The new commission proposed has been suggested in deference to the

The Attorney-General and the State Engineer are certainly ideal appoint-

The only reason for exclusion was that the localities concerned voted

either one or the other position without being bound by the report.

Mayors of the respective cities should not invite criticism.

Senator Lexew, of Rockland County, Republican. Chair-man of the Greater

New York Commit-

CLARENCE LEXOW.

Kings County, Re-publican, Member of

THOMAS F. GRADY.

Sanator Grady, of

New York City.

Democrat. Leader of

New York Commit-

the Greater New

Albany, Feb. 21.

President Roosevelt Points Out dation.

of the Board of Police Commissioners: There should be no haste or crude legislation in reference to joining the police forces of the two cities. The work of the present Police Department has been very much hampered by the crude and ill-considered form in which the bi-partisan bill was passed, and the possibilities for blundering would be infinitely greater if the forces of the two cities were to be joined. There ls, of course, no need whatever for joining them at present, and no possi-ble good could be subserved by so doing. If the Greater New York bill becomes a law and the cities are cast under one government after January 1, 1898, the outside limit of time necessary to amalgamate the police forces would be six months, so that there can be no possible excuse for having the effect prior to July 1, 1897. If it is made to take effect before that date it will not be to subserve any public good, but to gratify the personal spite of politicians or to use the consolidated police force for some improper end.

The recent Commissioners of New

York City have had a heculean task, and have had to perform it absolutely without any legislative ald. Indeed, as compared with previous Commissioners, we have been hampered, for in certain respects the bi-partisan bill, entirely aside from any consideration of the bi-partisan feature in it, represented a distinct retrogression.

The proper course to follow would be to have a commission appointed to consist of three outsiders, with power to add to their number if they wished, or at any rate to consult at length with members of the present Board of Police of both Brooklyn and New York, and then to have these men prepare a carefully considered and well digested measure for the next Legislature. The Commission should be composed of men who are both students of municipal reform and also perfectly acquainted with other subjects. Of course a man like Seth Low would be an ideal mem-ber of such a commission, if he would consent to serve; Dr. Albert Shaw would be an admirable man for it, and a man like Mr. Henry L. Sprague would make a good member. No man knows more about the details of the Police Department and would be a better adviser than Mr. Jacob Blis, the author of "How the Other Half Lives." The mere question of the provision for entering commissions and for the promotion of candidates should receive careful study and should be provided for in the bill itself. It is mere folly to introduce a bill concocted hastily, and perhaps secretly, by irresponsible people unfitted to express any opin-lon in the management of the Police Department, and then to thrust through that bill to gratify some political end entirely unconnected with the public

The department is still suffering from the crudity of the work of the bi-partisan bill. For instance, the mere chang-ing of the Civel Service Commission from the body that had them to the department itself made necessary a delay of almost four months before we could begin making appointments, and only the greatest labor enabled us to get our orately calculated to increase our troubles in holding the commission. We now at least have the Board in excellent shape. If it should be disturbed it would mean a break of four months or over. The trouble was that those who drew the bill knew absolute-ly nothing about the matter concerning which they were putting a law on the statute books. They doubtless meant well, but they were not experts and their judgment was bad. In spite of the almost incredible difficulties in their way the present Board has gone on steadily increasing the effectiveness of the force and raising the standard of discipline, taking with apparent unconcern the assaults of those who were interested in the old order of criminal favoritism and corruption and equally unaffected by the fright of timid good men who were disturbed by the diffi-

culties inevitable at the time of transi-Our work is now nearly complete. In two or three months we will have the force in fair shape, but we need years to get it up to the standard where it should be. No man can conceive of the HEALTH AND SAFETY. absolute demoralization of the force Think of the fact that the head of the Detective Bureau was under indictment was the legitimate outcome of the old system of catching thieves by paying other thieves from the funds corrupt believe in honesty and the efficiency speak of these departments as folthat comes through honesty, Instead of lows: ruption, they will insist that the Police Boards of the two cities are united in pursuance of a long considered and well digested plan, and after a close and painstaking study of experts into of both cities and of the police forces

STRONG---SCHEIREN.

New York's Mayor Is Pessimistic-Ex-Mayor of Brooklyn Scheiren Sees Many Advantages.

MAYOR WILLIAM L. STRONG, of New York: I have no foith in a Greater New York, despite the latest reports fom Albany. There is too much politics in it altogether to be serious. And if the will should pass I fail to see what benefit would accrue to a single executive department of the New York City Government. There would be ten times more confusion than good results, and I think every JAMES R. SHEFFIELD, Fire Commission

of Municipal Government by a Commission of Great Men.

It is the belief of Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst that if consolidation is effected on the lines now proposed New York will again be plunged "into the sea of political rottenness from which is

It is the belief of Dr. Charles H. Parkburst ion should be put off until such a time as the problem of municipal government, which he also believes is the problem of the age, has been at least partially solved.

PRESIDENT THEODORE ROOSEVELT. He suggests a plan by which he thinks a solution can be reached. Before further steps are taken toward uniting the two cities, he would have a commission appointed by the Legislature, whose duty it should be to make a great study of the question of municipal control. This commission, which should be composed of muster minds, should report to the Legislature the result of their labors, in which should be found a wise plan for the control of modern cities,

Dr. Parkhurst believes that no man, nor any set of men, can, in a few weeks, as it occurs to him the present Legislature imagines, formulate laws by which a city like a Greater New York could be properly governed.

He sees nothing in the consolidation movement, as it has proceeded thus far, to encourage him in the belief that it means a better government for either city. He said:

I do not pretend to know how a city should be governed, but I do know of some things that should be avoided if we are to have a pure government, and we can never have that so long as any political machine holds us in its grip. Avoid rings and avoid politics if we would come even to a partial solution of the question as to how an American city should be governed. Any plan, or any scheme that can be proposed, would fail if it included either of these

I would like to go on record as saying that I fail to find one thing to commend in the consolidation movement as it has thus far been conducted by the present Legislature. On the contrary, about everything connected with it is deserving of the severest condemnation. Every step that has thus far been taken is a step leading both cities back to ring rule, and to the very same conditions which existed a couple or three years ago. If we want a better municipal government, if we want to progress toward purity and honesty, then we want to stop short the manner in which the whole question of consolidation is being juggled with.

The men who have it in charge are not thinking how union may be brought about so as to give the greatest benefit to the people of both New, York and Brooklyn. The question foremost with them is how to benefit themselves and the political clique to which they happen to belong.

A certain political clique in Albany and a certain organization in this city, which is not quite so powerful as once upon a time, are working, and have been all along, with one object in view, and that object to get their grip upon the consolidated city. Every move in the whole matter has been made with this one aim.

Persons will say you can't prove it. Perhaps not. You may be looking at a field of growing corn. You may feel no wind, but you see the stalks all bend one way. Then you know there is not only a wind, but you know also the direction in which it is blowing.

As to the question, How shall a city be governed? It is not a question of how New York and Brooklyn shall be governed, but how shall a great American city be governed? That is the question, and the sooner the people look, at it in that way the sooner will we have a better municipal government. It, is a question that can't be settled in a day, a week, or a month.

I never heard of such a howling farce as the Lexow committee's inquiry in New York and Brooklyn on consolidation. It was simply puerile. Imagine a few legislators coming down here and attempting to find out the wishes of the people in two or three days. The value of the inquiry was best shown by that remark of little Lexow over in Brooklyn, when he said, "We will now go to New York and see what New York people have to say on the subject." Oh, it was absurd, ridiculous.

What I propose for the Greater New York is this, and I think it would be a great and a grand thing: Let the Legislature appoint a commission to look into the whole question of municipal government. Let great men be chosen for members. They can be found. I mean men who have the best interests of the city at heart; men who are not blased by petty politics or owned by rings and bosses. One always thinks of men like President Seth Low when work of this kind is to be undertaken.

No man should get on the commission simply because he happens to be riding on the top crest. It may be he is there like Lexow, because he is light. Let this commission take plenty of time and study this question of municipal government in a thorough, practical manner. Let them start at the very bottom of it, first looking into the historical side. Let them examine the municipal governments of Europe, especially of England, and where they will find much valuable information, and then let them make researches in

this country. Out of the mine of information thus accumulated, combined with the intelligent individual ideas of the members, should come a wise plan for the government of cities. I think in this suggestion lies the only solution of this great and grave question of municipal control.

But I am not at all hopeful that any such thing would receive the sapction of the present Legislature. And when I think of Legislatures, and the things they do not do, I always bring to mind a remark a Senator once made the provisions of the bill were elab- me; not how they will benefit or interest others."

Yes, I am afraid this question of how a city shall be governed is a long way from solution. But it is with the municipal ship as it is with the ship of the sea. No vessel can ever be kept on its true course when the magnetic needle is influenced by other than the Polar star.

will agree with me. I cannot see how the Fire Department, the Police Department or the Department of Public Works can, in any way whatsoever, be benefited by a consol-

EX-MAYOR SCHIEREN.

EX-MAYOR SCHIEREN, of Brooklyn.-it is a large question, a very large one. I can see, as an ex-Mayor of Brooklyn, and therefore at One time the head ex-officie of various mu pal departments, many advantages which might arise from consolidation. I can see no advantages if Staten Island and about two hundred square miles of cabbage patches are made part of Greater New York, but if Breeklyn, New York and Long Island City derived. But if the Greater New York is to at Albany, then good-by home rule, and good-

when the present Board took office. What Experts Think of Consolidation's Effect on the Two Most Vital City Departments.

The two most vital departments and rank from yet other protected in the new city will be as they are criminals. If the people of New York in the present cities, the Fire and wish a return of the rank foulness of the health Departments, for on them the old methods they will approve of the health of the inhabitants and the damage to legislating out of office the safety of the inhabitants and this year the present Board, but if they property will depend. Experts

the sham inefficiency purchased by cor. ADDED SAFETY ASSURED.

HUGH BONNER, Chief of the New York Fire Department.—The advantages I can see in a ments are concerned, are many and great. New York, Brooklyn and Long Island Chy are separated only by a river. The danger points in all three cities lie along the rive fronf, among shipping, wharves and store-houses. By a consolidation of the depart-ments many advantages would ensue in the ments many advantages would ensue in the event of a great configration occurring. There would be only a few minutes delay before companies could be dispatched from all sections of the consolidated city to the scene of the fire, and it would take a pretty stubborn blaze to best the department. For can see that in this way the entire territory could be visited. It is true that even now we respond to the request of other cities, such as Brooklyn, Hoboken, Jersey City and Long Island City in great emergencies, but we nover do so unless we are naked to, when these demands are made they are invarfiably willingly compiled with, and no charge is ever made for any such service, but if there was one department—one common head—all this formality would be done away with, thus saring much reluable time.

SEES DANGER IN IT.

one who has looked into the matter at all I am very much afraid that consolidation,

it becomes a fact, will work an injury, rather than a benefit, so far as the Fire Department is concerned. Perhaps my fears are somewhat nebulous at present, but I can see chaos result from an amalgamation of the two departments. The Brooklyn department is worked on very different lines from that of worked on very different lines from that of New York, and there would be grave danger of friction, no matter what precantions were taken to prevent it. No department can do good work unless there is an entire lack of dissension. The slightest friction must poces-sarily destroy its usefulness, and I am very much inclined to the belief that the New York and Brooklyn departments would never work in harmony. This may be an im-sginary fear, I confess, but it nevertheless exists in my mind.

THE BOARD OF HEANTH.

ex-President of the State Board of Healt The sanitary interests of Greater New York are, perhaps, its most important interests from a governmental standpoint. The separation of New York and Brooklyn

by the East River would, in my judgment distinct sanitary bureaus, presided ever by

These heads should be responsible to a Board of Health, having a president, a medical commissioner and ex-officio commission-ers. One of the latter should be the president of the Board of Police and the other the health officer of the port.

This could all be accomplished very readily by simply leaving the present organizations as they are, doing away alone with the posi-



THE CONSOLIDATION VOTE.

We come to the consideration of the vote of 1894 and what it signifies to this Legislature. The proposition is presented by three bills now in committee embodying three divergent views of the subject

First—The bill prepared by the Consolidation and the opposition to consolidation in the puted, then the opposition to consolidation in the circumstances stated 22,049 with the proposition in Consolidation few, who, for a variety of ressons, personal and upon the revised constitution of the supreme or conditions. ALL PROGRESS OPPOSED.

The situation her considered is no exception to the rule. Oposition was encountered to the building of the Brooklyn Bridge, which has added so enormously to the population of Brooklyn and so prodigiously increased her private and public wealth.

The situation her considered is no exception to the gleishtive apportionment, which was so vehemently attacked in every part of the State. It is doubtful whether a statement of circumstances may be conceived of more strongly corroborative of the unusually binding character of that vote of 1896. Again, in what column are the 70,000 who did not you to be placed. Certainly with the course of control of the State, and 20,341 more than on the legislative apportionment, which was so vehemently attacked in every part of the State.

An Oyster Bay Politician Responsible for the Feature of the Report
Which Is MostCondemmed.

CITIES COMMITTEE WILL APPROVE.

How the Proposals for Union Are Regarded by Men Who Have the Safety and Health of the Communities Most at Heart.

Albany, Feb. 21.—The much delayed Lexow report on Greater New York, which, in 15,000 words, explains why there should be a consolidation of this rest in this question are not distinguished. The result of the interest in this question are not distinguished by many of those who were considerated by Men Who Have the Safety and Health of the Communities Most at Heart.

Albany, Feb. 21.—The much delayed Lexow report on Greater New York, which, in 15,000 words, explains why there should be a consolidation of the consolidation. Staten Island, Long Island City and Newton, and why Flushing, Hempstead and Jamalea are excluded from the scheme, was adopted by the sub-committee this morning. Scantor Brush and Mr. McKoown dissented, Senator Brush and Mr. McKoown dissented, Senator Brush and Mr. McKoown submitting the form of the proposed change of the state grain in what the special district of the popular vote and anti-consolidation of the proposed charge of the water than the anti-consolidation of the consolidation of the conso

NEW QUESTIONS HAVE ARISEN.
Questions of political exigency have now intruded themselves, and upon a re-submission this great question of municipal unification might not be determined as it was in 1894, free from all party and partisan consideration, but would be made the football of party strife or factional contention inflamed by prejudices engenedered and stimulated by those whom avail of these as the last straws to defeat this

great and matchless project.

When the city of New York comprised a half a million persons it was a mooted question whether a city of its present size and population could be well governed. A few years ago, com-paratively, Brooklyn was in the same category. The union of the various localities presents no stronger argument against the probability of good government than does their separate and inicpendent existence. The march of progress is in the direction of concentration on every hand. The largest demands of civilized existence retained only by concentration. The voice of the representatives of the various localities will have

representatives of the various localities will have a very potent influence in moulding the rules of municipal government and life in any bill or charter to be herafter enacted.

THE REFERENDUM CONDEMNED.

We are convinced that those who desire a referendum apart from the resubmission are earnessly in favor of consolidation, but we are soundly convinced that the problem of the convinced that the problem of the convinced that the problem of the convinced that the problem of the convinced that the convin equally convinced that the method proposed would be more perilous to consolidation than would resubmission. In the first place, it must ments for the consideration of the question involved, and the appointment of defeating consolidation would vote against any charter, or laws, or synopsis of laws that might be framed by human ingenuity. again, inasmuch as every scheme of local or gen-eral government embodies and is largely com-posed of a system of rules which prescribe such imitations upon personal liberty as experience has demonstrated to be necessary, the citizen in his daily vocation and in his relation to his fellow-citizen and the municipality at large, from the street vender up to the man of wealth, it follows that in a vote upon a charter personal hostility to intrenchmeths upon business and traffic privileges would be entertained in the determination of the great question at issue. Comparatively few comprehend the limitations and disabilities which the law, whether of lo-The people having decreed "Consolidation," there has never been, in my and any system of laws outlined which fairly treats the questions referred to would be re

of Brooklyn are served by consolidation to a New York city, which will give name and prestigo to the greater metropolis. Brooklyn occupies to that part of the city of New York which lies position as the remainder of the city of New York lying north of Fourteenth street. Both portions contribute their manhood, intelligence and thrift to building up the enormous taxable values which are to be found south of Fourteenth street on Manhattau Island. To the east and north are the homes of those who create the prodigious wealth located in the cusiness part of the city. Both sections have the same right to share in the prosperity they have jointly created. As it is Brooklyn is isolated and acting alone without means to procure that niterchange of persons and property which is necessary toher ideal development.

Even the water front is not her own and the

commerce of the world under the restrictions im-posed seek the shores of the State of New Jersey because of th absence of the necessary acillties that unity of action and possession would bring.

criticism to make, but as to its consistency I have. The claim is made that A GOOD THING FOR BROOKLYN. The financial condition of Brooklyn is such as to warrant the conclusion that the work of detion of the territory which voted for it and include a part which voted velopment must soon be brought to a close. Her best limit has been reached. Her present conagainst. The small towns excluded gave a large majority for consolidation, while Brooklyn proper (as it was when the vote was authorized) gave a tractural engagements are in ecess of the limit of constitutional bond issue; her people are gross-ing under a burden of oppressive taxation, which They now propose arbitrarily to exclude territory which was to come in falls with equal severity on the owner and the occupant. Competition between the distinct netand include territory which does not want to come in, as shown by the vote in both cases. Hurried action on so vital a question is unwise, unfair, a nicipalities is turning the tide of homeseekers, who do business in the city of New York, violation of the principle of home rule, and would redound to the discredit toward the New Jersey shore, and the only remedy seems to be consolidation. Upon the investigation held in New York City no ex-No plan for any scheme of government is offered, and history does not record any scheme for the administration of the affairs of so great a city pressly anti-consolidation sentiment disclosed it-

The question of taxation is one to be care State, controlled by either political party, would give the balance of power | fully considered in itz relation to each locality to that party, and render the vote of the rest of the State null and void. If this consolidation is to take place, it should be after careful consideration those who lay particular stress upon the question of uniform taxation did not contend that the burden upon the greater city as a whole, or the city of New York as an integral power of that city, would be oppressive or unduly in-creased. The contention was made that upon a plan of equal taxation New York City would be constrained to bear the whole burden of equalization, that if done at once, and now a considerable amount of tax would be added to the city budget. But they fail to take into consid ation the stimulus and impetus given to eration the stimulus and impetus given to progress in each of the annexed localities; they fail to consider the added wealth of Greater New York, its larger facilities, its greater commercial energies, its higher developments, its increased opportunities, and the resulting improvement of all interests. They fail to take into account the value of undispured commercial supremacy and the concentration of larger business opportunities, and greater financial resources within the boundaries of the greater city, all of which will co-operate to adjust taxation so as to weigh less heavily on the individual citizen. They fail finally to estimate the reduction which always proceeds from concentration, and the reliavaty proceeds from concentration, and the re-

GEORGE W. BRUSH.

Keown, of Brooklyn, Democrat. Member of minority of Greater New York Com-

Albany, Feb. 21.

I cannot see how Mr. Lexow can report in favor of excluding territory which voted for admission. Jamaica is practically a part of Brooklyn today; Woodhaven, Ozone Park and Springfield are thickly inhabited, but are also excluded. I think the exclusion of that territory endangers the adoption of the majority report. No protest was advanced before the committee at any of its hearings either in Brooklyn or New York against the admission of this territory, which cast a majority of votes in favor of con-JOHN M'KEOWN.